

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 19 and 22 and amend claims 18 and 34 as follows (all pending claims and their status identifiers are reproduced below):

Claims 1-17. (Canceled).

18. (Currently amended) A paper machine fabric having a paper side warp layer and a machine side warp layer, the fabric comprising at least one set of paper side weft yarns interlaced with paper side warp yarns, at least one set of machine side weft yarns interlaced with machine side warp yarns, and at least one pair of interchanging weft binder yarns, the members of each weft binder pair forming together one continuous weft path on the paper side, all of said weft binder pairs interweaving with at least one paper side warp and at least one machine side warp, wherein at least one weft binder yarn member of each-at least one binder pair interlaces with machine side warp yarns in an unlocked position. ~~with at least one warp yarn of the machine side of the fabric~~

19. (Canceled).

20. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein all weft binder yarn members of all binder pairs interlace with machine side warp yarns in unlocked positions.

21. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein at least one weft binder yarn member of at least 25% of the binder pairs interlaces with machine side warp yarns in unlocked positions.

22. (Canceled).

23. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein the paper side weave pattern is plain weave.

24. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein the machine side weave pattern comprises one of, 5, 7, 8, or 10 shaft regular sateen.

25. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein the ratio of paper side to machine side weft yarns, when counting a pair of interchanging wefts as a single paper side weft, comprises one of, 1:1, 2:1, 3:2, 4:3, or 5:3.

26. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein the ratio of paper side to machine side warp yarns comprises one of, 1:1, 2:1, 3:2, 4:3, or 5:3.

27. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein all non-interchanging paper side weft yarns are distributed in groups of one paper side weft and each group is separated by a pair of interchanging weft binders.

28. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein all non-interchanging paper side weft yarns are distributed in groups of two paper side wefts and each group is separated by a pair of interchanging weft binders.

29. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein all non-interchanging paper side weft yarns are distributed in equal sized groups of at least three paper side wefts and each group is separated by a pair of interchanging weft binders.

30. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein non-interchanging paper side weft yarns are distributed in groups of at least two different sizes and each group is separated by a pair of interchanging weft binders.

31. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein interchanging weft binder pairs are less numerous than the non-interchanging paper side wefts.

32. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein interchanging weft binder pairs are present in equal number to the non-interchanging paper side wefts.

33. (Previously presented) A paper machine fabric as claimed in claim 18, wherein interchanging weft binder pairs are more numerous than the non-interchanging paper side wefts.

34. (Currently amended) A method of making paper, said method comprising:

i) providing a paper machine fabric having a paper side warp layer and a machine side warp layer, the fabric comprising at least one set of paper side weft yarns interlaced with paper side warp yarns, at least one set of machine side weft yarns interlaced with machine side warp yarns, and at least one pair of interchanging weft binder yarns, the members of each weft binder pair together forming one continuous weft path on the paper side, all of said

weft binder pairs interweaving with at least one paper side warp and at least one machine side warp, and at least one weft binder yarn member of ~~at least one~~ each binder pair interlacing with machine side warp yarns in an unlocked position; ~~with at least one warp yarn of the machine side of the fabric~~

- ii) depositing paperstock on the papermaking side of said paper machine fabric; and
- iii) dewatering said paperstock through said paper machine fabric.